

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 00830 281937Z

63

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SY-04 A-01 OPR-01 SCCT-01 CU-02 NIC-01 USSS-00

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R 281840Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5916

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 830

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MX

SUBJECT: RENEWED TERRORIST ACTIVITY IN MEXICAN CITIES

1. BOMBINGS IN MEXICO CITY, SAN LUIS POTOSI, AND OAXACA ON JANUARY 26 AND EARLY ON JANUARY 27 RESULTED IN FIVE DEATHS AND 26 PERSONS INJURED IN SAN LUIS POTOSI AND CONSIDERABLE PROPERTY DAMAGE IN ALL THREE CITIES.

2. IN MEXICO CITY EIGHT BOMBS WERE EXPLODED AT THE SECRETARIAT OF LABOR AND TREASURY, RESPECTIVELY, IN THE VALLEJO INDUSTRIAL AREA, AND AT BANKS. REPORTS INDICATED THAT SOME BLASTS WERE CAUSED BY DYNAMITE AND SOME POSSIBLY BY AMATOL.

3. THE OAXACA BOMBS DAMAGED THE OFFICE OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, A BANK, A LIBRARY, AND THE FORD AGENCY. NO CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED.

4. THE SAN LUIS POTOSI BOMBS EXPLODED NEAR SEARS, A CANADA CO. SHOE STORE, AND A BANK. ARMY TROOPS ARE REPORTEDLY PATROLLING AREAS OF THE CITY AND A NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE MEXICAN COMMUNIST PARTY, THE POPULAR SOCIALIST PARTY, AND THE REVOLUTIONARY STUDENT FRONT, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 00830 281937Z

HAVE BEEN ARRESTED.

5. THE BOMBINGS FOLLOWED A RAID AND ROBBERY OF A CANDA CO. SHOE FACTORY IN GUADALAJARA, WHICH RESULTED IN THE DEATH OF THREE EMPLOYEES. THE PERPETRATORS GOT AWAY WITH APPROXIMATELY 300,000 DOLLARS.

6. COMMENT: IT IS NOT YET KNOWN WHETHER THE GUADALAJARA RAID WAS CARRIED OUT BY A POLITICAL GROUP OR COMMON CRIMINALS -- NOR WHETHER IT IS RELATED TO THE BOMBINGS IN OTHER CITIES. THE LATTER, OBVIOUSLY, WERE POLITICALLY MOTIVATED THOUGH THE IDENTITY OF THE POLITICAL GROUP OR GROUPS INVOLVED REMAINS UNCLEAR. OUR PRESENT ASSUMPTION IS THAT THE BOMBINGS REPRESENT AN EFFORT BY EXTREME LEFTIST TERRORIST GROUPS TO REMAIN A FORCE IN BEING AND ARE A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE RISKIER KIDNAPPING OR ROBBERY OPERATIONS. MEDIA COVERAGE SUGGESTS THAT PUBLIC OPINION ALSO IDENTIFIES THE TERRORISM AS WORK OF THE LEFT, THOUGH RADICAL NATIONALIST EXCELSIOR AND ITS COLUMNISTS CONTINUE TO HINT THAT FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS MAY BE RESPONSIBLE. JOVA

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